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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 27, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Reply to Chancellor Adenauer's message
delivered by General Gruenther.

I attach a draft of a suggested reply to Chancellor Adenauer's message which I would propose be sent to him through Ambassador Conant. The draft indicates that you would welcome a visit from the Chancellor. I believe that such a visit would be useful although January seems to me to be too early. The Chancellor has been very critical of American policy ever since the newspaper stories last July regarding a basic change in American strategy involving a major reduction in United States ground forces and a shift to primary reliance on nuclear weapons. The Chancellor apparently believes that such a change of policy was adopted and according to some reports relates it to a belief that the United States desires to make some deal with the Soviets at the expense of Europe.

I believe that a visit to the United States would afford an opportunity for clarifying these matters and enlisting the Chancellor's support for American policy. It would also probably be helpful to him in his forthcoming electoral campaign.

Walter D. Conant Jr.
Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Draft message to
Chancellor Adenauer.



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